

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1428

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006

USE OF ALUMINIUM IN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

Barman Shri Hiten

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a study group to implement substitution of conventional material like iron, wood with aluminium in automobiles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any research has been conducted on the substitution by aluminium in automobile industry; and
- (d) if so, the details alongwith the findings thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SMT. KANTI SINGH)

(a) and (b): A Core-group on automotive R&D (CAR) has already been constituted as a collaborative effort between the Department of Science & Technology, Department of Heavy Industry and Department of Information Technology. The Technology Roadmap drawn by CAR has suggested increased use of aluminium as it would result in light-weight automobile bodies saving fuel, although currently the raw materials cost is high.

(c) and (d): The Department of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Mines have established a centre of excellence in semi-solid forming. The CSIR is also conducting research on increased applications of aluminium under its Advanced Manufacturing Technology (AMT) mission programme. Jawahar Lal Nehru Aluminium Research Development & Design Centre at Nagpur is known as center of excellence for aluminium and has conducted research on development of new aluminium alloys for general purpose and engineering industries. In private sectors, R&D center in M/s. Hindustan Aluminium Company (Hindalco) is also doing research in substituting conventional materials by aluminium alloys. Aluminium based composite components like cylinder liner, brake discs, brake drums etc. have been put to field trial by major automobile manufacturers like M/s. TVS Motors, M/s. Mahindra & Mahindra etc.